



HALO 4

FORWARD UNTO DAWN



REDEMPTION!



HaloFanForLife.com presents the “Forward Unto Dawn” unofficial graphic novel. Used with permission as per Microsoft rules, as stated at bottom.

This is the second in a 6-part series that follows the early adventures of Thomas Lasky, the future executive officer aboard the UNSC Infinity.

Special thanks to the crew at 343 Industries for making the live action series a reality. Thanks to the cast and crew of the webisode production for creating a quality series for which all Halo fans can be proud of.

343
INDUSTRIES™

This graphic novel is a labor of love to all of my fellow Halo fans. It’s not an official piece, however I hope that you will enjoy it for what it is. This is the second of six graphic novels I will be creating over the length of the series.

If you liked it, please comment on my blog at:
HaloFanForLife.com
or follow me on Twitter at:
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HALO 4

FORWARD UNTO DAWN



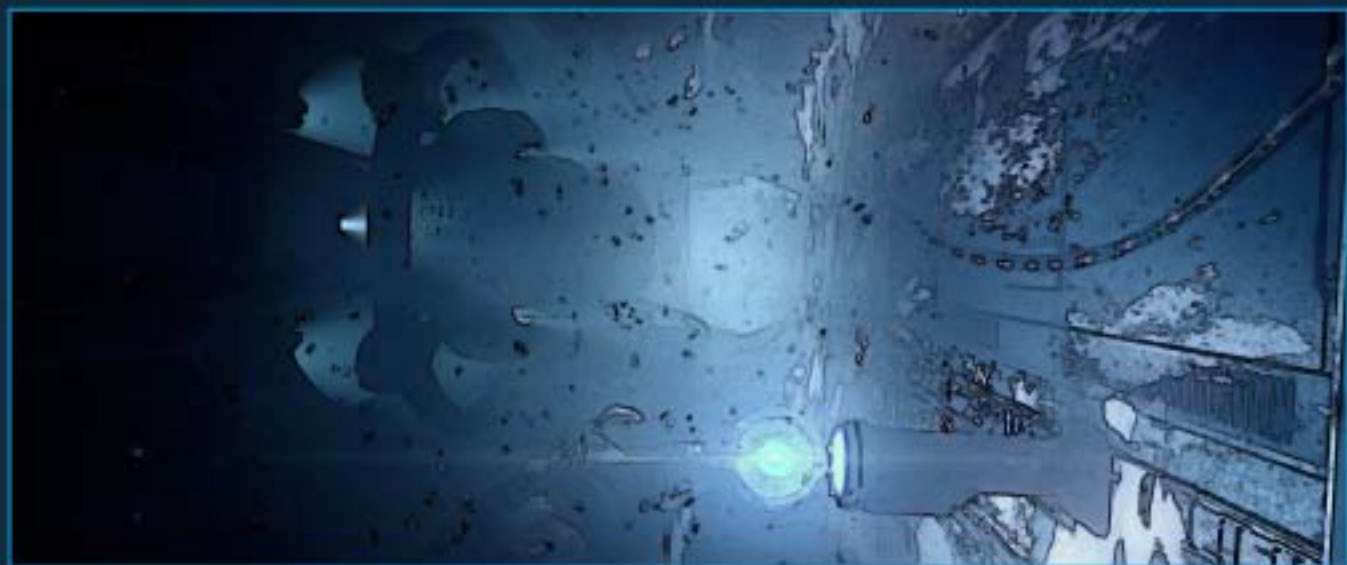
We've been floating aimlessly in space for 1651 days 6 hours, and 19 minutes.

Over 4 years aboard this ship with nothing to do.

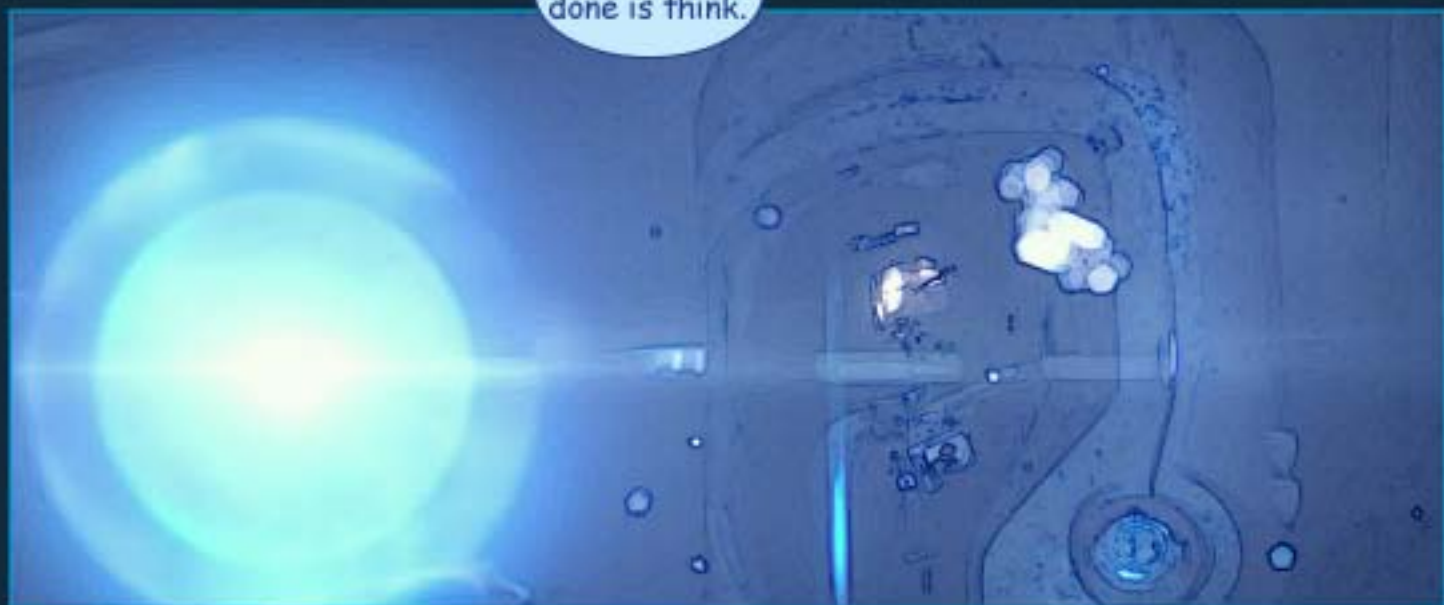




For four years, nothing to do but think.



All I've done is think.





What are
you dreaming
there?



Hearbeat tones in the background.



Klaxon sounds!





The Robot's going to be pissed.



Shut up Sully!

Go go go,
Get there quick.

Wake up Hastati!

Why are you stopping. Are you waiting for your fancy mommy to come and finish it for you? Move it, faster.





Get there quick!



Are you tippy toeing?



That looked like slow motion to me.

Don't like being up at 0400?



Tomorrow it will be 0300.



Weapons
Check!



Weapons Check!

Weapons
Check!

Weapons
Check!





Orlen lights.



Cadet, CADET, you're already dead son.

Orlen, Cadet Silva's time?

51.07 seconds

Not good enough today, Cadet Vickers.



I believe Cadet Silva's record is just shy of the academy's record, held by Cadman Lasky.

Now that was a REAL soldier. A soldier that did not give up.

Tomorrow you will engage in the last major exercise of this term.

Hastati's squad future at this academy will depend on it's performance.





Thank you
for your message father.
(translated from Chinese)



I received top marks today during a combat exercise.



SCORE!



DIMAI

Where did you get this?



You could get in a lot of trouble.





Cadet
Vickers.

Yes Sir?

You realize
you and Lasky are the
reason I had to run the tour
yesterday with you noobs?
And why we all had to get
up at 0400.

Yes sir.

So as you
can imagine I'm
pretty hungry. And
I do love this acad-
emy's quiche.







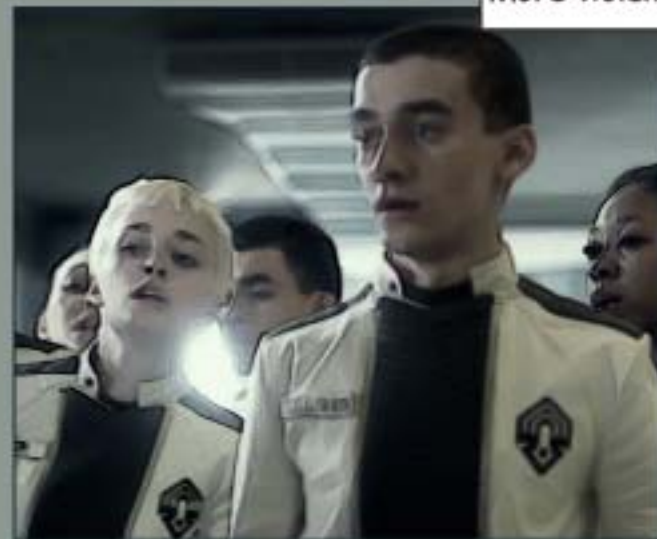
Whoah, Lasky and Vickers!

Various conversations crescendos.






More violent punches being thrown.



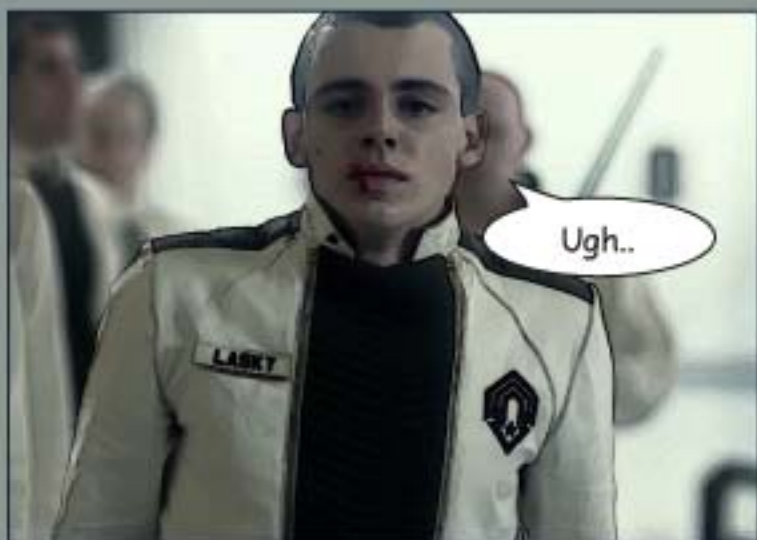


Officer on
Deck!



Talking ceases.









There's a soldier
in you Thomas. I can see
it. Everyone can see it. YOU
need to see it. I know your
brother did.



Yes sir.



Now go get yourself
cleaned up before class.

AXIOS!



Hey Bro. Hello from Arcadia. The jungles of Arcadia. So what am I supposed to tell you?



Tell him how you got your nickname!



No, I'm not...

small scuffle...



Okay, I'll tell him.

You're not going to believe this. So we make a drop in the rainforest. We see this river, me and the boys, we decide to take a dip.



Ridge warns us all not to drink the water. Of course, first thing I do is get a mouthful.

I almost threw up in my body suit, a couple times. So now they call me volcano.



Various background laughter.

Chants of CANO! CANO! CANO!



Sniff SNIFF...



The Pincer movement. A strategy used in Earth's second Punic War against the Roman republic at the battle of Cannae



Orlen begin.



Lesson beginning.



Red represents the Romans troops, Blue Hannibal's.

Hannibal placed his spearman and slingers at the front.

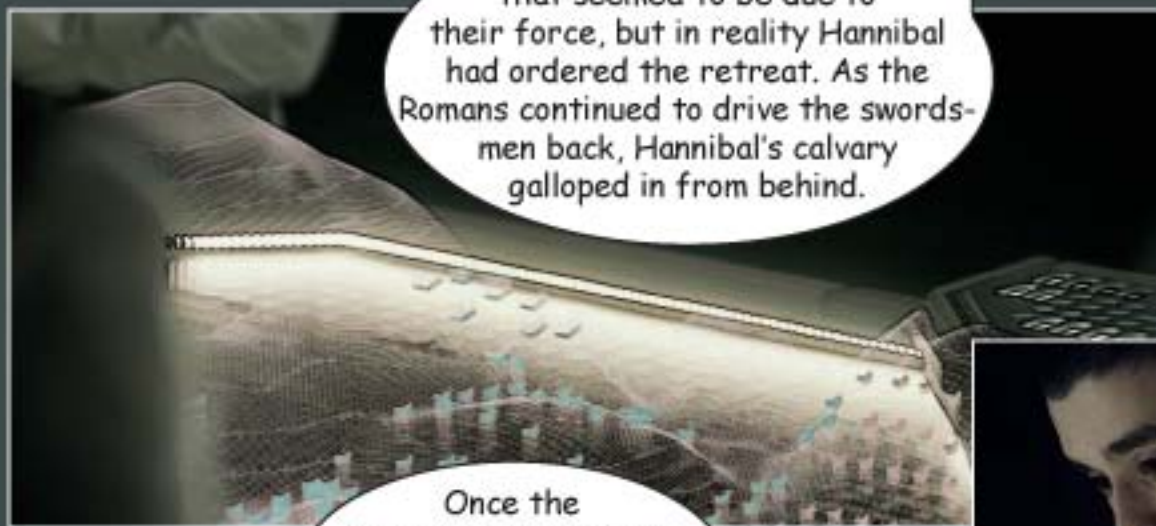
Behind them his swordsmen, flanked by calvary.





When the Romans attacked, Hannibal's swordsman retreated.

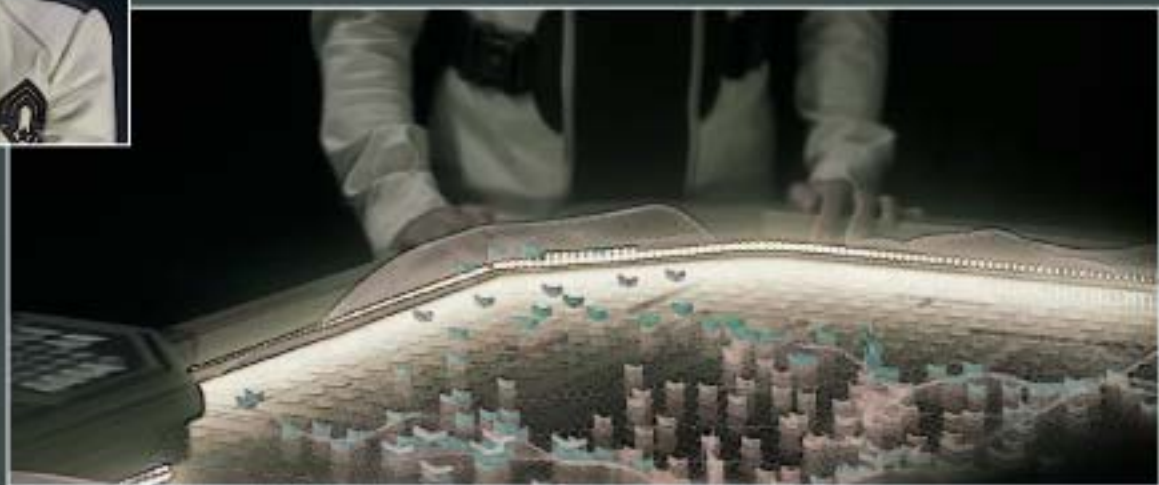
For the Romans that seemed to be due to their force, but in reality Hannibal had ordered the retreat. As the Romans continued to drive the swordsmen back, Hannibal's calvary galloped in from behind.






Once the attacking pincers connected, the Romans were completely surrounded.



This is an actual strategy?





The Roman's outnumbered Hannibal's troops by over 10,000 strong and yet they were defeated.

Why?

Hubris.

Never underestimate your enemy. Never underestimate what they will sacrifice for victory.



Questions?

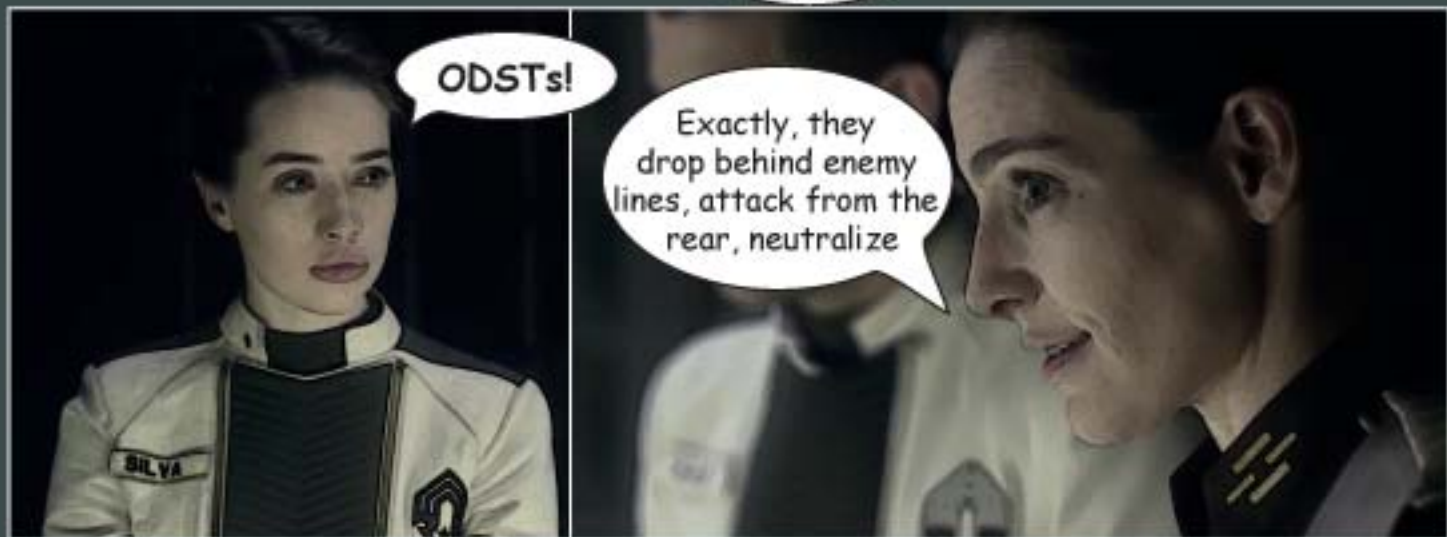




Yeah, how do we apply this?

Yeah, we don't have horses.

True we don't, but what do we have instead?



ODSTs!

Exactly, they drop behind enemy lines, attack from the rear, neutralize



Or die trying.

The question is as old as war itself. If someone is trying to kill you, are you not to rise against him, and kill him first?



You were hangin on her every word.

Why wouldn't I?

I just hear the endless drumbeat of war, and that doesn't make me an Innie lover.



Look, you want people to change? You want this war to end?

Of course.

Then you're going to need people follow you.





Tomorrow,
Hastati squad will try not to
embarrass itself, yet again.



You are a
unit. Your lives are in
each other's hands.



This
morning's victor,
Cadet Silva, knows it,
because her parents gave
the ultimate sacrifice
and died on the
battlefield.



That success
tomorrow on the field will
not just be for our honor, but
for those who have fallen so
YOU can be here.



Thundering in the background.



All Cadets Please be advised, new mandatory curfew tonight at 2100.



Garbled transmission follow by Threat Level Red...



FORWARD UNTO DAWN,
FROM EARTH, FOR EARTH. HONOR,
VALOR, ALLEGIANCE, EXCELLENCE.
TODAY. TOMORROW. FOREVER.
TOGETHER WE RISE. TOGETHER WE



Lasky taps twice on the wall next to him. Silva responds by tapping back.





Final combat exercise of this term, Hastati versus Zuma.



Cadets bustling about getting ready for the morning's exercise.






Cadets, prepare for Cryo injections.




squirt..





At-ten-tion!


Today's mission is to capture the flag. I expect a better outcome than last time.



Permission to speak SIR.



Speak



I'd like to take point sir.





Okay
Lasky, let's see
if you still got it in
you.



But
for your sake you
better hope you can pull
some magic out of you ass,
or you'll be running tour
the rest of the year.



Understood
sir.



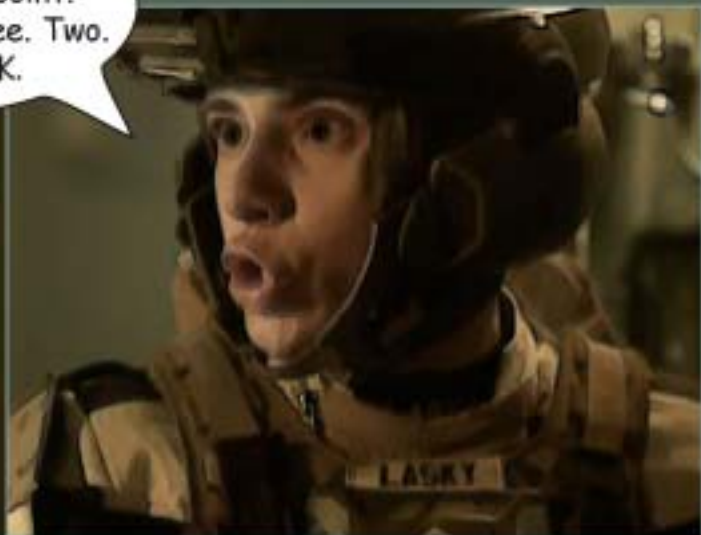
Various coughing.



Hhisssss....



Hastati squad one minute to R.V. point. On my mark. Three. Two. One. MARK.





Various shouts.

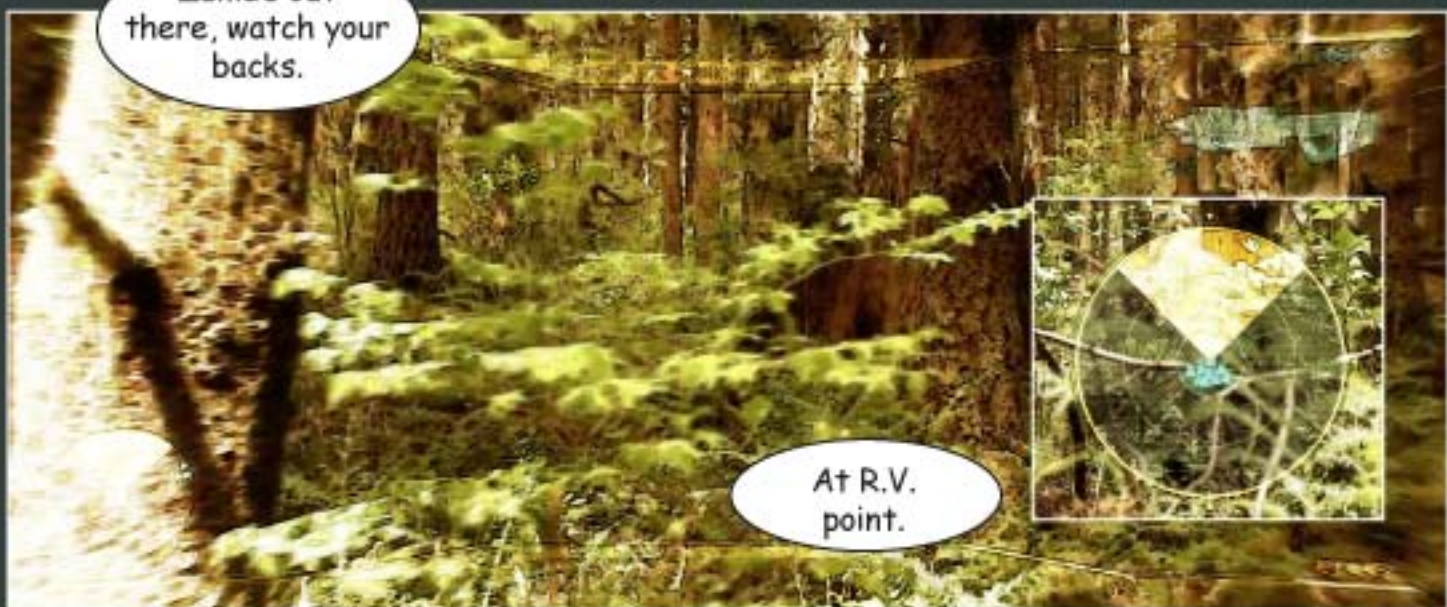


Cover!



No sign of Zuma.

Let's go,
move move.



Zuma's out
there, watch your
backs.

At R.V.
point.





Equal numbers,



deadlocked terrain.



What's your plan?



We're waiting.







ZUMA Squad



Alright,
flank them.



They're
all together.



Found them.



Huh?.



BRraappP!!

BRraappP!!

BRraappP!!

UGH!

OHHH!

OWWW!





BRraappP!!

BRraappP!!



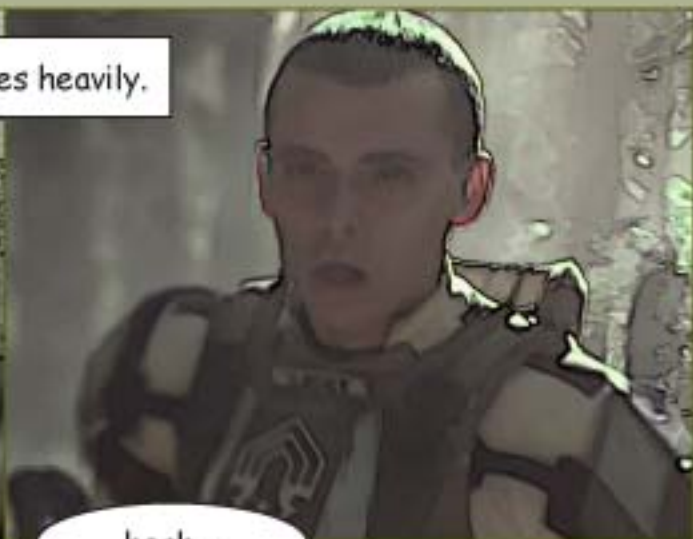
BRraappP!!



NOW!



Lasky breathes heavily.



heah...



Heah...



HEAH...



LASKY!!!



Halo Fan Friendly Letters

Responses to the first graphic novel as well as my 6-part review of Forward Unto Dawn episode one were positive. I got one in particular that stood out. It was from none other than Stewart Hendler himself, the director of the Forward Unto Dawn series. He tweeted this to me after reading the review:



-Sal (HFFL)
Owner/Blogger
HaloFanForLife.com